

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace the second full paragraph on page 39, lines 16-25, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A program basically is expressed as an 8 bit data code array. In order to represent numerical values and letters forming commands and the like in the source thereof, only seven bits of the 8 bit code are used and if the eighth bit, which is the most significant bit, is converted to "1", then the code becomes unrecognizable on a computer. Accordingly, if the data to be protected is a program, then it is even more effective if ~~any one~~ a hexacode between "80" and "FF" is used as ~~a hexacode~~ the protection key value such as ~~when that~~ the eighth bit is ~~replaced by~~ converted to "1" ~~to form the protection key value.~~